INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT		·
SUBJECT	Production of the Hettstedt Lead Refinery	DATE DISTR.	3 March	1955
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1. General

The Hettstadt Lead Refinery (Bleihnette Hettstedt) is a subsidiary of the Mansfeld Combine (Mansfeld-Hustten-Kombinat Wilhelm Pieck). The refinery has a present labor force of about 620 persons, of whom about 120 are members of the SED party. The refinery produces principally lead, iodize, rhenium, zing sulphate, and cadmium coment (Zement-Gadmium)

2. Production of Lord

The planned monthly quots of lead production is 283 tons. This quots was not fulfilled in the first quarter of 1954. In the second quarter it was fulfilled by 101 percent; in the third quarter, by 108 percent. Commercial lead, produced in blocks of 50 kilograms each, is delivered principally to Kabelwerk Oberspree and to Transformatoremerk Oberschoenesside.

3. Production of Zinca Sulphate

The planned monthly quote of zinc sulphete production is about 100 tons.

4. Production of Rhenium

The planned monthly rhenium quots of 12.5 kilegrams has been fulfilled. Rhenium is derived from flue dust accumulating in the process of refining of copper. During the smelting of copper ore, rhenium is precipitated along with lead and iodine, in the so-called flue channels (Kanalisation). The Hettstedt refinery is reputed to be the only refinery in the world in which rhenium is extracted in this form. This process was perfected by experiments over several years undertaken by Dipl. Ing. Lindemann (fmu), teamical chief of the enterprise, Dr. Kantasch (fmu), chief geologist, and the accessed Dr. Wagemann (fmu). Rhenium is isolated in perrhenate form (crystals) and

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also as hard metal. Rhenium crystals come in glass tubes. Metallic rientum is east in block-molds about 20 x 2 centimeters. The entire rhenium output goes to the USSR. The rientum installation, in which mine men are employed (almost all SED members), is directly administered by the Sechnical superintendent of the plant, Dapl. Ing. Mindemann (fnu), a non-party man, inventor of the process for extracting rhenium. Seems hardly probably that the 20 x 2 cm. blocks were "cast". If blocks of rhenium were in fact produced, they may have been formed by sirrlering the compressed metal posser according to procedures common to powder metallurgy technology. For comparison purposes, the melting point of tungeten (welfrem) is 3370° G. 25.		GOIN I DESIGNATION			25X
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